(a) whether the Government have taken any final decision on the centrally sponsored Saving-Cum-Relief Scheme for the marine fishermen; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Demolition of Temple

3957. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uma Maheshwari-Lakshmi Kanta Jain temple built by the Chola rulers at Ravandur village in Periyapattan Taluk of Mysore district has been razed to the ground;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against those found guilty; and

(d) the details of steps taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka has reported that some stones of a dilapidated ancient temple in Ravandur village were removed for construction of Kalyana Mantapa.

(c) The local police has been asked to take action against persons responsible for illegal removal of the stones and also not to allow removal of stones from the temple.

(d) The Government of Karnataka has asked its Archaeology Department to examine taking over the above temple under the provisions of Protected Monument Act.

Research Centres in SC/ST Dominated Areas

3958. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are giving priority to open research centres or seeds farms in the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes dominated area for high yielding varieties in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such projects in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The programmes are designed to develop seeds of High Yielding Varieties and Hybrids and also to generate appropriate potential technologies for different Agro-Climatic conditions covering location specific requirements and wide coverage to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes dominated areas. These programmes are also for social and economic upliftment for weaker sections of the country in which Scientist and farmers' linkages complement in generating useful seed material and technologies to suit the User Class.

(c) The following 3 seed Projects for the State of West Bengal are given below :

(i) National Seed Project on Vegetable at Pedong.

(ii) Hybrid Seed (Rice) a Chinsura.

(iii) National Seed Project at Central Research Institute on Jute and Allied Fibre, Barrackpore.

Rail-link to Sikkim

3959. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sikkim Government has urged the Union Government for the extension of Railway lines up to Sikkim;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering the proposal keeping in view of the geographical situation of the State;

(c) if so the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A survey for restoration of the narrow gauge line to Sikkim from Silliguri to Sivok has been ordered recently.

Further consideration of the project would depend when the results of survey become available.

[Translation]

Cow Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Bill, 1992

3960. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details pertaining to the Uttar Pradesh Cow Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Bill 1992;

(b) since when the said bill is under consideration of the Union Government for approval; and

(c) the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to the same?